



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration
National Marine Fisheries Service
Sustainable Fisheries Division
7600 Sand Point Way N. E., Building. 1, Bin C15700
Seattle, WA 98115-0070

**NEW IN 2007
FOR PACIFIC WHITING VESSELS
FISHING UNDER EXEMPTED FISHING PERMITS
AND PACIFIC WHITING SHORESIDE PROCESSORS**



Vessels Fishing Under Exempted Fishing Permits (EFP)

In 2007, the Pacific whiting shore-based fishery will begin to transition from a fishery that has been monitored under EFPs to a fishery that will be monitored under a Federal regulatory program. The following are substantive changes being made to the terms and conditions of the 2007 EFP:

- ▶ EFP vessels will be required to have Electronic Monitoring Systems (EMS) coverage on all trips. Beginning in 2007, vessels will be required to pay the EMS provider directly for EMS services. EMS services can be purchased individually or by a group of vessels. If large groups of vessels purchase EMS services, the cost per vessel is expected to be less than for individuals. All coordination must be carried out by industry participants. For EMS coverage, vessels or group representatives must contact Howard McElderry or Morgan Dyas at Archipelago Marine Research, Ltd; tel: 888-383-4535 or 250-3834535.
- ▶ If the fishery is approaching the canary rockfish bycatch limit, NMFS may chose to use an EFP provision that would require all EFP participants to fish seaward of the 150-fathom depth contour as defined in the Federal groundfish regulations at § 660.393. Such action would be taken to allow the fishery to continue and to prevent early closure from a bycatch limit being reached. NMFS would announce the effective date for implementation of the 150-fathom depth contour by email (wcgroundfish@noaa.gov), facsimile and/or email to your state coordinators.
- ▶ Automatic action can be taken to implement the Ocean Salmon Conservation Zone, described at 660.373(c)(3), when NMFS projects the Pacific whiting fishery may take in excess of 11,000 Chinook within a calendar year. If NMFS projects that the Pacific whiting fishery will exceed the take of 11,000 Chinook salmon, fishing shoreward of the 100 fathom depth contour could be prohibited. If this occurs, NMFS will announce the effective date by email (wcgroundfish@noaa.gov), facsimile and/or email to your state coordinators.
- ▶ Trip limits specific to the EFP landings are specified in the EFP.



Pacific Whiting Shoreside Processors and First Receivers

NMFS is in the process of preparing new regulations that will affect Pacific whiting shoreside processors/first receivers during the 2007 whiting season. The effective date of the rulemaking is unknown at this time. The following provisions will be implemented by the new rulemaking:

- ▶ Pacific whiting processors/first receivers will be defined as persons who receive, buy, or accept whiting deliveries of 4,000 lbs or more from vessels using mid-water trawl gear during the primary whiting season.
- ▶ Requirements for daily (within 24 hours from date of landing) electronic fish ticket submissions.
- ▶ The Pacific whiting shoreside processors/first receivers will be responsible for obtaining, installing and updating electronic fish tickets software that is provided by Pacific States Marine Fish Commission (PSMFC) or software that is compatible with the standards specified by PSMFC, and for maintaining internet access sufficient to email data files.
- ▶ Minimum hardware and software needed to support the electronic fish ticket software provided by PSMFC will be defined in regulation as follows:
 - A personal computer with Pentium 75-MHz or higher; Random Access Memory (RAM) must have sufficient megabyte (MB) space to run the operating system, plus an additional 8 MB for the software application and available hard disk space of 217 MB or greater; A CD-ROM drive with a Video Graphics Adapter(VGA) or higher resolution monitor (super VGA is recommended).
 - Microsoft Windows 2000 (64 MB or greater RAM required), Windows XP (128 MB or greater RAM required) or later operating system; Microsoft Access 2003 or newer.
- ▶ For information on electronic fish tickets, please contact Dave Colpo by email at dave_colpo@psmfc.org; or telephone at (503) 595-3100 or (888) 421-4251.
- ▶ Catch will need to be sorted by Federal species (species groups) before weighing after offloading from the vessel and prior to transport away from the point of landing.
- ▶ All electronic fish ticket weights must be from scales with appropriate weighing capacity for the amount being weighed. For example: amounts less than 1,000 lb should not be weighed on scales that have an accuracy range of 1,000 lb-7,000 lb.
- ▶ Catch cannot be offloaded from a Pacific whiting shoreside vessel that does not have a properly functioning EMS system, as required by an EFP, unless a waiver for EMS coverage was granted by NMFS for that trip.

PLEASE NOTE: The new Federal rulemaking for processors will not replace any state recordkeeping and reporting requirements. All federal reporting requirements will be in addition to reporting requirements under applicable state law.

